

Name _____

Date _____

Grade: 6 Reading

Theme Four Selection: 3

"The Royal Kingdoms of Ghana,
Mali, and Songhay"

Read the selection.

Then, answer the following questions.

1. Which is a statement of fact?

- a) The camel was more important to the people of Ghana than the buffalo was to the Native Americans.
- b) Without gold, the people of Ghana would not have survived.
- c) Ghana was established by the Soninke people in the third century A.D.
- d) Traveling by caravans was the best way to travel through the desert.

2. Why did the Wangaran miners develop the practice of dumb bartering?

- a) to make money.
- b) to protect the secret of their gold mines.
- c) to get rid of useless gold dust.
- d) to capture unsuspecting traders.

3. The point of view of this story is

- a) first person.
- b) second person.
- c) third person.
- d) there is no point of view.

4. Gold was the lifeblood of trade for the people of Ghana. What details support this statement?

- a) Camels carried supplies across the deserts.
- b) The king sent soldiers to protect the caravans.
- c) The Soninke people wore gold chains and necklaces.
- d) The miners hid behind rocks when they bartered.

5. The purpose of this story is to

- a) inform.
- b) entertain.
- c) persuade.

6. The genre of this selection is

- a) nonfiction.
- b) poem.
- c) autobiography.
- d) realistic fiction.

7. It was necessary to have an experienced guide when traveling across the desert because

- a) The temperatures often reached 130 degrees F.
- b) The desert sand was ever changing.
- c) The camels were often loaded.
- d) The caravans often contained more than 100 camels.

8. The camel was reliable for desert travel because

- a) they would bite, spit, kick, and refuse to move.
- b) they can endure the dry heat and need little water.
- c) they can see in the dark better than any other animal.
- d) all of the above.

9. Family was very important to the Soninke people. What details support this statement?

- a) There were no orphans or homeless people within their society.
- b) Cousins were the same as brothers and sisters in the family.
- c) The birth of a child was celebrated with feasting, dancing, and singing.
- d) All of the above.

Open-ended Response

Identify and describe some of the difficulties the trade caravans faced while traveling through the desert. Use at least two examples from the story.

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Grade 6 Reading

Theme 4 Selection 3 “The Royal Kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhay”

Answer Key and Eligible Content

Item Number	Answer	Descriptor	Assessment Anchor
1	c	Fact/Opinion	R6.B.3.1
2	b	Main idea/Detail	R6.A.2.4
3	c	Point of View	R6.B.2.2
4	b	Main idea/Detail	R6.A.2.4
5	a	Author’s Purpose	R6.A.2.6
6	a	Genre	R6.A.2.6
7	b	Main idea/Detail	R6.A.2.4
8	b	Inference	R6.A.2.3
9	d	Main idea/Detail	R6.A.2.4

Open-ended Rubric

3 Points

Paragraph lists two details from the story explaining why the travel was difficult and uses sufficient details.

2 Points

Paragraph lists two details from the story explaining why the travel was difficult but does not use sufficient detail.

1 Point

Paragraph gives only one detail from the story explaining why the travel was difficult.

0 Points

Response provides insufficient material for scoring, is inaccurate, or incomplete